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work in view of the coming Hague Conference, the National Peace Congress at New York, the observance of the 18th of May in the schools, the sixteenth International Peace Congress at Munich, etc. Will not those of our friends who have not yet sent in contributions, kindly do so as early as convenient, and in such sums as they may be able to spare. Gifts of any amount will be gratefully received.

Editorial Notes.

Death of de Staal

The recent death of Baron de Staal at the age of eighty-five recalls the eminent position which he held in 1899 as president of the first Hague Conference. He was at that time Russian Ambassador in London and continued to hold this position till 1902. The Czar could not well have chosen a better man to head the Russian delegation to the Conference. Baron de Staal was an experienced diplomat, well acquainted with European affairs, and speaking several of the European languages. He was not only a man of ability but also of a warm, kindly, conciliatory nature, though eminently self-possessed and not demonstrative. These personal characteristics had much to do with developing the fine spirit of harmony which took possession of the Conference and grew deeper and stronger to the end. Not only did he show himself such to the official members of the Conference, but also to the peace workers who were at The Hague in an unofficial capacity. He received them individually and as deputations in the most cordial way, and was quick to express his appreciation of the great service which they had rendered in making the Hague Conference possible. From his hotel window he waved his hand in friendly greeting whenever he saw one of them passing on the square in front. For the first week of the Conference, as president of it, he was kept busy, almost from morning till night, receiving those who had come with messages and memorials from different countries, and in these interviews he showed himself not so much an official as a friend and brother. With Hon. Andrew D. White, Sir Julian Pauncefoot, Mr. Auguste Beernaert and Mr. Leon Bourgeois, the representatives of the United States, Great Britain, Belgium and France respectively, he was one of the small group of eminent men who gave tone and direction to the Conference and made its deliberations fruitful. To have been the head of such an international gathering as that and to have contributed so much to its success, in laying the foundations of the permanent peace of the world, is to have reached almost the summit of political glory and honor.

Foster at The Hague.

It is a great satisfaction to all the friends of peace in this country to know that, in addition to the six delegates whom our government will send to The Hague in June, one of our

most gifted and experienced public men, Hon. John W. Foster, will represent China in the Conference. China has highly honored us as well as herself in choosing so capable a statesman and diplomat to be her representative in what is certain to prove the most important international gathering ever held. It will give her a position of great weight in the deliberations, and will add much indirectly to the influence of our own country. Mr. Foster has long been one of the foremost advocates of arbitration and of a pacific policy in general among the nations. He has been, since his long diplomatic career abroad, three times president of the Mohonk Arbitration Conference, and was the leader in the organization of the second National Arbitration Conference held at Washington in 1904. He is a pronounced opponent of the policy of continued military and naval expansion, and China, through him, may therefore be expected to give her hearty support to the British government in its purpose to secure the serious consideration of this difficult subject at The Hague. Mr. Foster's book, "Arbitration and the Hague Court," prepared at the request of the Mohonk Conference, is an excellent manual on the subject. It will be remembered that Mr. Foster was chosen by the Chinese government as its counsel in the conference which closed the war between China and Japan in 1895. It was doubtless his eminent services at that time which led to his selection for this great mission to The Hague. Mr. Foster is to sail for The Hague about the middle of May, as the Conference is expected to open about the first of June.

Mr. Bryce on Warships.

The recent appointment of Mr. James Bryce as British Ambassador to Washington makes his well-known views on the subject of armaments of great interest. In an article in the *Figaro* (Paris), in 1905, he called attention to the extraordinary growth of the naval expenses of Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States, in the fifteen preceding years, showing that this growth was entirely out of proportion to their increase in population. The British increase had been more than 150 per cent, the French 50 per cent, the German about 200, the Russian 200, the United States 200. The rate of taxation had been much increased and an undue proportion of the nation's fiscal resources devoted to preparation for war. Mr. Bryce expressed the hope that the subject of armaments, for the limitation of which the first Hague Conference had been expressly called, would be submitted to the new Conference initiated by President Roosevelt. The need for a reduction of armaments was more urgent than ever, though there was a continual demand by certain persons for their increase. He seemed especially surprised that the United States had entered

the rivalry and proposed to have a navy surpassing all others, except possibly the British. To his thinking there were no reasons to justify "so vast an expansion" of the naval power of this country. The United States was menaced by no danger. In the case of Great Britain, world-wide as her commerce was, he felt that naval development had gone further than any real interests compelled her to go. France had become her good friend. France and Italy had become excellent friends, and there was no need of naval extension in that direction. Between France and Germany the navy would play no decisive part in case of a conflict. Going more specifically into the situation of the United States, he declared that she had no need of a fleet to protect her from invasion, for invasion was impossible. Why she needed a fleet to maintain her preponderance in the Western hemisphere, he could not see, considering the inferior strength of the other American nations. A few gunboats would be amply sufficient for this. As to her needing a great navy because she had become an "oceanic power," who, he asked, was thinking of attacking her? What enemies had she? What benefit could any nation acquire by aggression upon her? His conclusion as to both his country and ours was that "neither their permanent interests nor their new needs, nor the material and moral position they occupy as regards other nations, obliges them to acquire the absurd armaments which they are urged to assume or to maintain." These altogether sensible and incontrovertible views Mr. Bryce still holds, and we do not see how any citizen of this country who thinks the subject through can fail to accept them.

Massachusetts Legislature.

The resolution introduced into the Massachusetts Legislature on the 21st of January by Robert Treat Paine, Edwin D. Mead, and others, in behalf of American influence at the coming Hague Conference, was adopted, as amended by the Committee on Federal Relations, by the House on February 18 and by the Senate on February 21. We give the resolution in the form in which it finally passed, the only amendment being the addition of the words, "and the neutralization of routes of ocean traffic":

"Whereas, The coming international peace conference at The Hague is to meet through the efforts, primarily, of the President of the United States, and it is therefore fitting that the United States should take action concerning the subjects to be considered by the conference; and

"Whereas, One of the leading subjects endorsed by the Interparliamentary Union for such consideration is the recommendation made unanimously by the General Court of Massachusetts in the year 1903, in behalf of a regular advisory congress of the nations; and

"Whereas, This Commonwealth has for nearly a century

been the chief centre of the efforts made in America to advance those high interests of international peace and order which are now receiving the attention of the world; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the General Court of Massachusetts respectfully urges the President and Secretary of State of the United States to exert their influence to procure from the coming Hague Conference favorable action upon the five recommendations of the Interparliamentary Union, in behalf of (1) a regular International Parliament; (2) an arbitration treaty of general obligation; (3) the limitation of national armaments; (4) an impartial commission to report upon contested issues between nations before the beginning of hostilities; (5) the immunity of all unoffending private property at sea in time of war; and (6) the neutralization of routes of ocean traffic.

"Resolved, That copies of these resolutions, attested by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, be sent to each of the Senators and Representatives from Massachusetts."

The Peace Bureau.

The special meeting of the Commission of the International Peace Bureau, made necessary by the death of Mr. Ducommun, was held at Berne, February 25. Twelve of the members were present, namely, Frederick Bajer, president, the Baroness von Suttner, Henri Morel, Professor Ludwig Stein, Dr. Jules Ducommun, Emile Arnaud, Dr. W. Evans Darby, Francois Kemény, Senator La Fontaine, Gaston Moch, E. T. Moneta and Dr. Adolf Richter. Eight members, including Secretary Trueblood, were represented by proxy. The nomination of Dr. Jules Ducommun as a member of the Commission was unanimously approved, subject to ratification at the annual meeting of the Bureau. The resignations of Frederic Passy and Miss Ellen Robinson were both received, but action on them was deferred till the annual meeting. It was decided to recommend that hereafter the maximum number of members of the Commission be raised from twenty-six to thirty-five. A report on the state of the Bureau and the Bloch Fund was made by Dr. Ducommun, and it was voted to make an urgent appeal to the peace societies and friends of peace for funds for the Bureau. A proposition from the Hungarian Peace Society to erect a monument to the memory of Elie Ducommun was referred to the Standing Committee. A provisional program of the Munich Peace Congress was considered, to be proposed to the various peace societies for approval and extension. The chief points on this program are: Report on the Events of the Year, International Instruction, the Second Hague Conference and its Work, an International Peace Budget, the Relation of the Labor Organizations to the Peace Cause, etc. The annual meeting of the Bureau will be held, it was decided, at Munich, at the time of the Peace Congress in the early autumn.

**King Edward
the Peacemaker.**

King Edward continues to take advantage of every proper occasion to show his interest in the international peace movement, and to promote its further development. Just before he left London for The Hague, Frederick de Martens, the special Russian envoy to prepare the way for the Hague Conference, was invited to dine with the King at Buckingham Palace. The Prince of Wales and the Prime Minister were among those present. The Prince of Wales sat opposite the King, and had near him the French, German, Austro-Hungarian and Turkish Ambassadors. Lord Chief Justice Alverstone, Sir Edward Grey, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir Henry Fowler, M. P., Mr. Asquith, Admiral Sir John Fisher, and a number of other eminent public men, were present. The special significance of the occasion was made clear by the fact that Mr. de Martens and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman were given the prominent places at the dinner table. The British government has not yet announced, so far as we know, what special subjects, in addition to those on the Russian program, it will bring before the Hague Conference, but it is well known that the Prime Minister will make every possible effort to have the subject of limitation of armaments considered. He has the hearty support of King Edward in his purpose.

**The Central
American War.**

Nicaraguans and Hondurans have fallen to killing each other the past month. It has been difficult to find out what the war is about. It is said to be about a mule. Some Nicaraguan cavalrymen entered the territory of Honduras and stole a mule. So says Honduras. Nicaragua says the mule was on her own side. There was a fierce war of words, and then an effort to arbitrate the matter. But blood was up,—Nicaragua withdrew her member of the tribunal, and the war of words passed into an armed conflict, in which hundreds of men have already been slain. We imagine that old mule looking on, braying, and saying to himself: "What fools these men are making of themselves! We mules never kill each other." This war will probably go down in history as the mule war, and be catalogued with the grasshopper war, in which two Indian tribes nearly annihilated each other over an insignificant grasshopper about which two red boys had got into a quarrel. People say that arbitration has failed in this case. It has always failed, both between men and nations, when they have thrown reason and common sense to the winds and turned themselves into savage beasts. But men, singly, or in groups, ought to be *men*, and whenever they have been so, arbitration has always been successful. This mule war is said to be about over. Our government and that of

Mexico have both been doing what they could to induce these petty belligerents to cease their fighting. We hope the effort has been finally successful. We once thought the prospects good of a federation of the Central-American Republics into one state. That is probably the only cure for their ills. But that consummation does not just now seem very near.

**Bureau of
American Republics.**

Hon. John Barrett, who was chosen on December 19, 1906, by the Governing Board of the International Union of American Republics as Director of the Bureau of American Republics, entered on the duties of the position on January 11. Mr. Barrett has been in the foreign service of the United States for thirteen years. From 1894 to 1898 he was Minister to Siam; in 1898-9 he was special commissioner of American Chambers of Commerce in China, Japan and the Philippines; in 1901-2 he was a delegate to the Second Pan-American Conference in Mexico; in 1902-3 he was Commissioner-General of the St. Louis Exposition to Asia and Australia; in 1903-4 he was Minister to the Argentine Republic; in 1904-5 he was Minister to Panama; and in 1905-6, Minister to Colombia, from which position he has just resigned to take charge of the International Bureau of the American Republics. He has been prominent in the work of promoting better relations between the United States and Latin America. The position on which he has just entered is one of very great importance since the reorganization of the Bureau, and if rightly handled can be made most effective in maintaining and strengthening good relations among the states of the western hemisphere.

**Dartmouth
College.**

This account of the public peace meeting at Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., reached us just too late for our March issue:

Washington's birthday — February 22 — was observed at Dartmouth College by a public meeting in the interest of international peace. The exercises were held in the new Dartmouth Hall. Prof. Robert Fletcher of the Thayer Engineering School spoke on Washington's bequest of a policy of neutrality as giving the United States present advantage in the widening movement for international peace. Dr. H. S. Person of the Tuck School spoke of the economic cost of war and the burden it entails from generation to generation; Instructor W. H. Stewart, who recently spent a year in Germany, described some of the social effects of militarism in Europe, and especially in Germany; and Instructor E. B. Watson, who for several years was a member of the faculty of Robert College at Constantinople, spoke of the unstable equilibrium of southeastern Europe and the need of permanent peace for the advancement of the Near East.

Evidence is not wanting that the peace movement is affecting the youth in our colleges and universities, whose

thought of to-day, as Walter Bagehot aptly said, is likely to be found to be the public opinion of to-morrow. President Tucker writes of this observance at Dartmouth College: "The meeting was one of much needed information, and most helpful, I think, in its influence."

Enthusiasm for Humanity.

In an article, not long ago, in the *Religious Herald*, on "The Moral Equivalent of War," Professor S. C. Mitchell of Richmond College, Virginia, declared that the self-sacrifice involved in war is found in many fields and ways which are free from the carnage and the cruelties of the battlefields,—the self-sacrifice which is the indispensable prerequisite to growth and advancement. "The enthusiasm for humanity," he says, "furnishes a moral equivalent of war. Akin to the claim of missions, it is yet more present in the round of daily duty. It is in this respect that we can rightly take an inventory of the moral elements in the Southern situation. If we regard solely the well-being of the Anglo-Saxon, the presence of the negroes in great numbers among us depresses the mind and darkens the future. If, on the contrary, we enter into enthusiasm for humanity; if we embrace within our affections the possibilities of mankind as a whole; if, in a word, we take the divine standpoint,—we may account ourselves fortunate in the demand for patience, sympathy, statesmanship, self-mastery, ability to promote self-help in the weak as well as wisdom in the strong. As the battle calls forth heroism, so the Southern situation may reveal in us as a people certain moral qualities of rare order, provided we are willing to rise upon our dead selves to higher things. The South has known the discipline of war, of poverty, of political isolation, and of racial difference. In each phase of our bitter experience we have found moral compensation. May it not be that in the most difficult task of racial adjustment we shall gain moral equivalents that will more than offset all our material and social drawbacks?"

Brevities.

... The evacuation of Manchuria is now complete. The last battalion of Russian troops has left Harbin and China is now resuming possession of the country.

... Count Lamsdorff, the former Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, who died recently at San Remo, Italy, is said to have been the first to take up and support the suggestion of an international conference for an arrest of armaments. During the whole of the foreign secretaryship of Count Mouravieff, who issued the Czar's Rescript in 1898, Lamsdorff was the real director of the foreign policy of Russia.

... The first delegate of Great Britain to the Hague Conference will be Sir A. Nicholson, Ambassador at St. Petersburg. Germany's first delegate will be Mr. von Radowitz, ambassador at Madrid.

... The German Peace Society, at its recent meeting at Eisenach, adopted a resolution urging that the matter of limitation of armaments be made the subject of serious examination at the Hague Conference.

... Both Belgium and France will be represented in the second Hague Conference by men who represented them ably in the first, the former by Mr. Auguste Beernaert, the latter by Baron d'Estournelles de Constant.

... King Haakon has recently declared that Norway, as the country which awards each year the Nobel Peace Prize, is peculiarly pledged to use her influence in the promotion of international friendship and peace.

... The *Christian Endeavor World* declares that "the announcements already made give ground to believe that it [the Jamestown Exposition] will disgrace the United States by exalting brutality and barbarism instead of advances in the arts of civilization, murder instead of philanthropy, and hatred instead of Christianity. The military and naval features are put in the forefront."

... A dispatch from Vienna, March 9, stated that it was asserted in diplomatic circles there, that the negotiations between Russia and Japan had led to an agreement to submit in future all questions in dispute to a court of arbitration. This report ought to be true. Japan and Russia have certainly experienced enough of the horrors and expenses of war to last them for all time to come.

... Andrew Carnegie's peace address at St. Andrews University, of which 100,000 copies have been published in this country, has been translated into German under the title "Pacific Arbitration," and more than 160,000 copies sent to teachers in the German empire.

... The American Humane Society, Albany, N. Y., Dr. Wm. O. Stillman, president, asks the clergymen of the country to devote one sermon in April each year to the subject of "Mercy." A "Mercy Sunday" has become an established custom in parts of the United States. The Humane Society desires to make it universal and pleads for "a word in behalf of the 1,750,000 children between the ages of ten and fifteen who are compelled to work for wages in the United States." This plea, as well as that for kindness to dumb animals, ought to be heard and heeded by all clergymen, whether they are able to have a "Mercy Sunday" or not.

... The Union of the Hungarian Women's Societies has created a committee on peace and arbitration.

... *Leslie's Weekly* says that "President Roosevelt's request to Great Britain to join the United States in submitting to the powers a treaty prohibiting the sale of intoxicants and opium among uncivilized races is one of the most notable recent developments of the spirit of international morality, which is coming to be recognized more and more in the dealings of one nation with another."

... The cost of the British army has in five years grown from \$100,000,000 to \$180,000,000 annually; that of the navy from \$120,000,000 to \$178,000,000.

... A dispatch from Albany, N. Y., on March 19, stated that Hon. Seth Low, Professor Samuel T. Dutton, Gen. James Grant Wilson and others had that day